

# City of Fremont STREET TREE Guidelines

**“STREET TREE” means any tree located within the public street right of way as well as any tree that is adjacent to the right of way and approved by the city to satisfy the requirement to plant street trees under the City’s Subdivision Ordinance.**

**Street Trees are typically located within 10 feet from the curb face.**

**A property owner is responsible for the maintenance of street trees adjacent to his or her property.**

Permit	Application Process	Things to know
<b>Tree Removal</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The property owner is responsible for removing &amp; replacing the street tree(s). A permit is required to remove a street tree.</li> <li>2. Request a <b>Street Tree Removal Permit</b> from the City of Fremont Maintenance division (510) 979-5700.</li> <li>3. Urban Forestry Division staff will conduct a field inspection to determine if the tree meets the criteria for removal (see column to right).</li> <li>4. If the Urban Forestry staff determine that at least one of the removal criteria has clearly been met, a Street Tree Removal Permit may be issued allowing the owner to remove the tree at the owners expense.</li> <li>5. The property owner must comply with all conditions of the Street Tree Removal Permit.</li> <li>6. If your tree removal is part of a development application, your request will be reviewed through the development process and you do not need a separate permit from City of Fremont.</li> </ol>	<p><b>A Removal Permit may be issued if the street tree:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Poses a substantial hazard to people or property;</li> <li>2. Is dead, dying or has short life expectancy;</li> <li>3. Is seriously diseased;</li> <li>4. Is part of a group that is overcrowded;</li> <li>5. Has caused extensive utility damage (sewer, water main, power lines, etc.);</li> <li>6. Has caused extensive concrete or property damage;</li> <li>7. Has been damaged to the extent that it cannot be feasibly restored;</li> <li>8. Requires emergency removal and is approved by City Urban Forestry staff. (510) 979-5700</li> </ol> <p><b>Q: Do I have to replace my street tree once it is removed?</b></p> <p><b>A:</b> In most cases, YES, any street tree removed must be replaced. In some cases, obstructions (close proximity to street lights, fire hydrants, utility vaults, stop signs, etc.) may prevent the replanting of a new tree.</p>
<b>Tree Planting</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The property owner is responsible for purchasing and planting street tree(s) adjacent to his or her property. A permit is required to plant a street tree.</li> <li>2. Request a <b>Street Tree Planting Permit</b> from the City of Fremont Maintenance division (510) 979-5700.</li> <li>3. Urban Forestry staff will visit your property frontage to see if the site is conducive for street tree(s) planting. If so, Urban Forestry staff will put a painted dot on your curb, as a recommended planting location (If not, the property owner will be notified of such by the Urban Forestry Division).</li> <li>4. The City of Fremont will issue a permit indicating the species and location along with information for how to properly plant the street tree.</li> <li>5. To request a different species or planting location, contact the City of Fremont Maintenance division (510) 979-5700.</li> <li>6. The property owner must comply with all conditions of the Street Tree Planting Permit.</li> <li>7. If your tree planting is part of a development application, your request will be reviewed through the development process and you do not need a separate permit from the City of Fremont.</li> </ol>	
<b>Tree Pruning</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The property owner is responsible for pruning the street tree(s) adjacent to his or her property. A permit may be required – see #2</li> <li>2. Pruning of low hanging branches measuring less than 2 inches in diameter as necessary to maintain the clearance heights over the public right of way and incidental pruning of a street tree measuring less than 15 feet in height after planting may be performed by anyone without a permit. All other pruning requires a permit and must be performed by or under the supervision of a certified arborist.</li> <li>3. To request a <b>Street Tree Pruning Permit, contact</b> the City of Fremont Maintenance division (510) 979-5700</li> <li>4. The permit packet includes tree pruning information, and a list of State licensed tree companies who are both International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified, and registered with the City of Fremont.</li> <li>5. The property owner is not required to choose a tree professional from the list of tree professionals provided by the City of Fremont. The list of tree professionals provided by the City is simply provided as a courtesy.</li> <li>6. <b>The tree professional you hire must be properly licensed, insured and follow the ISA pruning standards.</b></li> </ol>	<p><b>NOTE:</b> To report a tree hazard call, (510) 979-5700 or go to <a href="http://www.fremont.gov">www.fremont.gov</a> (“Report a Concern” link).</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Topping or severe pruning of more than <b>25%</b> of the tree’s canopy within a growing season <b>is not permitted</b>, except with special permission from the City of Fremont.</p>
<b>Root Pruning</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The property owner is responsible for proper root pruning of street trees adjacent to his or her property. A permit is required.</li> <li>2. <b>To request a Street Tree Root Pruning Permit, contact</b> the City of Fremont Maintenance division (510) 979-5700.</li> <li>3. The property owner must consult with a certified Arborist to ensure any root pruning will not damage the tree or make the tree unstable.</li> </ol> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Please call the City’s Street Manager (510) 979-5700 with any questions about temporarily repairing sidewalks that could possibly be a tripping hazard. The City provides grinding or patching services for sidewalk displacements that are greater than 0.5 of an inch in height. To find out if your sidewalk is scheduled for replacement, please contact the City’s Engineering Division (510) 494-4700.</p>	<p><b>NOTE:</b> It is important that the root is severed cleanly rather than shredded so the tree will be able to close off the wound in a short period of time.</p> 